



Monxton Matters

*Editor
Mike Cleugh
Issue 47
May
2010*

Work Begins on the Goodmans Logistics Park



The Black Swan

High Street, Monxton

Things have changed, come and see what's new

01264 710260
www.theblackswanmonxton.co.uk

Serving food 7 days a week
Fabulous Sunday roasts
Senior citizens' lunches mon - fri £7.50



Village Hall Report from the MPC AGM May 2010

Mr David Hodgson addressed the meeting and read out his report as follows:

“The Monxton and Amport Village Hall Management Committee have had a difficult but successful year. Halfway through the year our chairman, Graeme Leslie, and our Hall booking Secretary, Karen Simon were both forced to resign from the committee through ill health and for a while the future of the hall was uncertain. To help us through this difficult period and to lighten the workload of a future Chairperson, Rose Wareham agreed to take on the new position of Hall Management Co-ordinator and Diana Jones agreed to take on the booking secretaries duties until a new secretary was found.

Fortunately, the New Year saw Robin Aisher agreeing to take on the Chairman’s role and this was followed by Penny Kitson volunteering to take on the booking secretary’s position. Both are now working diligently in their new roles and we thank them most warmly for giving up their time to help manage the hall’s daily activities and for ensuring the continued success of the hall. Many thanks also to Rose Wareham well assisted by Colin Wareham, for carrying out all the day-to-day management and maintenance duties.

In the summer of 2009, all the hall’s windows and the entrance door were replaced with white upvc double glazed windows and a door at a cost of £3680. The folding doors across the centre of the hall were removed because they had become unstable and were rarely used. Maintenance work was carried out on the hall roof at a cost of £586. More recently a permanent ramp has been installed outside the main entrance to enable wheel chair access. This new facility cost £851.

To cover the bulk of the cost of those improvements we withdrew £4000 from our deposit account, leaving a balance of £7,569. Income from the hall bookings and film shows came to £9,408 while the expenditure including all the improvements came to £11,610 leaving us with £5,279 in our current account and £7,569 in the deposit account.

Our thanks go to our helpers and fundraisers, whose efforts have ensured the successful future of the hall.” Mr Hodgson then carried on to explain that concerns had been raised about the steepness of the ramp and the surface being too slippery which is being investigated. It is also a concern that, in the long term, the village hall roof may need replacing.

The chairman thanked Mr Hodgson for all this help and also for assisting with the internal auditing of the Parish council’s accounts.

Monxton and Ampport Village Hall Bookings Diary

To Book the Hall for an event please call Penny Kitson on 01264 771227 or e-mail at penny.kitson168@mod.uk

Regular Bookings:

Day	Time	Activity	Contact Name
Mon	9:30am – 10:30am	Yoga Class	Jane Borley 01264 773429
Mon	Afternoon	Available For Hire	
Mon	Evening	Available For Hire	
Tue	9:30am – 1:30pm	'Wake Up' Toddler Activity class (1 – 3 yrs)	Katy Hayes 01722 411083
Tue	2pm – 3pm	Badminton	Brenda Gower 01264 710538
Tue	Evening	Available For Hire	
Wed	8:30am – 1:30pm	Baby Sensory Class	Lin Day 01722 320779
Wed	2pm – 4pm	RAGS (Art Group)	Renata West 01264 889507
Wed	Evening	Available For Hire	
Thu	9:15am – 11:45am	Music with Mummy – baby /toddler class	Nicky Derrick 01264 720452
Thu	Afternoon	Available For Hire	
Thu	6:15pm – 9:15pm	Tap and Modern Dance Shuffles & Splits	Louise Ray 01264 356042
Fri	Morning	Available For Hire	
Fri	Afternoon	Available For Hire	
Fri	Evening	Available For Hire	
Sat	All day	Available For Hire	
Sun	Morning (twice a month)	Coffee after Church Service	Jean Wood 01264 710518
Sun	Afternoon / Evening	Available For Hire	

Additional Bookings:

Date / Time	Activity	Contact Name
Fri 11 Jun: 11am	Baby Massage	Chris
Tue 15 Jun: 7 30pm	Café Service	
Fri 18 Jun: 2 30pm	Baby Massage	Chris
Sun 20 Jun: 10am	Church Coffee	Jean Wood
Fri 25 Jun: 11am	Baby Massage	Chris
Sun 27 Jun: 12am	Church Coffee	Jean Wood
Fri 02 July: 11am	Baby Massage	Chris
Fri 02 July: 7pm	PTA School Disco	Alison Wilson
Mon 05 July: 7pm	Pipe Band	Iona MacDonald
Tue 06 July:	Monxton Parish Council	Julie Douglas
Tue 13 July: 7pm	4 Parishes Art society	Elizabeth Roberts
Sun 25 Jul: 12am	Church Coffee	Jean Wood
Sun 01 Aug: 11am	Church Coffee	Jean Wood
Sat 14 Aug	Party	Barbara Chatfield
Sun 15 Aug: 10am	Church Coffee	Jean Wood
Sun 22 Aug: 1700	Church Service - Songs of Praise (use Hall if wet)	Jean Wood

**EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF
The Monxton Parish Council Meeting
TUESDAY 11th May 2010 at 8.00PM**

Full edition available on the Monxton Website or from the Parish Clerk

MATTERS ARISING (Abridged version)

**FINANCE – STATEMENT OF PARISH
COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/2010**

Mr. Eaglesham (having circulated a copy to each parishioner present) went through the accounts for last year. Mr Eaglesham explained that the accounts had been approved and signed at the Annual General Meeting held earlier that evening.

The Chairman had signed both the cash book and accounts.

The total balance in hand as of 31/03/2010 is £ 7,293.79

Out of this amount, the Parish Council continues to set aside £3,000 for improvements to the Village Hall and £1,000 for any further improvements to Traffic Calming.

This leaves a current disposable balance of £ 3,293.79.

The chairman thanked Cllr Eaglesham for his continuous hard work with the finance and his successful audits.

Sunnybank Tree Issue

Concern has been raised about the new trees, which have been planted along the back fence of the current Sunnybank properties. The trees are very close and will hang over the back garden fences and will block out some light. The clerk will contact Hyde Housing to see if anything can be done.

Play Area

The question was raised as to who is responsible for the Inspection of this area. The clerk will contact Kevin Harrington of TVBC and also Janine at Hyde Housing.

Footpaths

Mrs Allen said there was nothing to report except a request from Kurt from Manor Farm, that all dogs be kept on a lead and that children must be supervised if on his land due to the large amount of farm vehicles in the area and the cattle.

Vacancy for a Parish councillor

Following the resignation of Cllr Glover the chairman mentioned that a replacement is needed.

The clerk will be contacting TVBC to request the applicable notice which will be displayed on the village hall notice board and on the notice boards inside both bus shelters.

Anybody wishing to apply must do so by the deadline which will be stipulated on these notices and apply direct to TVBC.

PLANNING MATTERS

Item	REF/DESCRIPTIONS	Parish Council	TVBC	Comments
1	09/02646/lbwn – Monxton Manor, alterations, extension and conversion of stables	No objection		Withdrawn by applicant
2	09/02292/fulln – Monxton Manor, alterations, extension and conversion of stables	No objection	Permission by TVBC	See below
3	10/00165/fulln – Field House, erection of a green house	No objection	Permission by TVBC	

- 1. Councillor Tim Southern will provide advice with listed building applications.**
- 2. All planning applications can be accessed on line at www.testvalley.gov.uk**

Neighbourhood Watch

Mr Robert Davies addressed the meeting.

Mr Davies mentioned the crime in the village since the last AGM, which had been minimal and minuted in previous minutes. The figures for Monxton are very low in comparison to some other areas. Poaching at night and oil theft is still an issue in nearby communities. Theft, fraud and deception are still on the increase and care needs to be taken.

There are now 2 new NHW representatives at Sunnybank, Mr Peter Fennell and Mr David Bateman. Mr Davies thanked Cllr Chaffey for his help in finding the new members. There are now 12 NHW members in the village. Mr Davies thanked these volunteers for all their help and support.

Mr Davies mentioned the new Policing Pledge, a copy of which can be found on the Village Hall notice board. There will be an Open Day at Andover Police Station and the news letter will continue. Although the Mobile Police Unit is no longer visiting monthly, there will still be beat surgeries from time to time in the village

where residents will be able to speak to either Bill Williams or Rachel Cassells.

Mr Davies introduced Rachel Cassells, the PCSO for this area.

She mentioned that there had been 9 incidents in the village from May 2009 to May 2010.

There was a trend towards farm incidents as these buildings tended to be more remote, less secure with less lighting. The main challenge in the area is poaching and the police have regular meetings with local farmers to discuss this issue. Theft of 4 x 4 vehicles is also an issue in some areas.

Miss Cassells also mentioned that part of her work involves visiting schools to discuss crime prevention and internet safety.

The problem of speeding in the area was discussed. Miss Cassells encouraged all incidents to be reported to Hampshire Police. Cllr West requested to be copied in to all reported incidents.

Mrs Saville thanked PCSO Cassells for her report and support in the village.

2010 Report by the Chairman of Monxton Parish Council

Mrs Saville read out her report as follows:

“As we met last year, we were in the final stages of preparation for the long awaited 2009 Monxton Flower Festival. It was wonderful to witness how the village pulled together under Robert’s expert guidance to produce such a fabulous event for all to enjoy. Despite the weather not being as kind as it might have been, the weekend netted an amazing £12,850, which was shared between St. Mary’s church and the King Fisher Ward. A real success story. Heartfelt thanks to all who participated, but in particular to Robert and his team for their tremendous efforts.

Another successful project which saw completion this year was the affordable housing at Sunnybank. The new residents moved in during September, and we were delighted that, despite the horror stories we’d heard from some other Parish Councils, all 4 houses were allocated to people with local family links – exactly as intended. A few Parish Councillors were lucky enough to have a tour of the houses shortly before they were occupied, and were very impressed at the quality of build and attention to detail. We hope they are proving to be comfortable and happy homes.

The promised play area is also up and running and in regular use, and the mix up over the style of swing seats has now been rectified, hopefully allowing more children to enjoy playing there.

For some unknown reason it seems TVBC also decided to provide a brick built sentry box for the children to play in!

We are still trying to secure more parking spaces at Sunnybank, and are hoping to fund it from the S106 developer contribution, but, as with all of these things, it’s a slow process! Even getting the sycamore trees overhanging the existing parking spaces removed is proving to be an arduous job, but we will persevere.

On the planning front, the Rural Settlement and Boundary Review has started, and we were involved in the first round of talks. After taking advice from other Parish Councils and County Councillors, we opted for a tight development envelope line around the houses and gardens in the village. The timescales for this review are long, with public consultation proposed for the autumn of this year.

We’ve dealt with 16 planning applications and 8 tree applications over the last year, including the revised Airfield scheme.

On that topic, the past year has seen the back of the Tesco Megashed, and Goodman have now secured the Co-op as their tenant for a new, smaller warehouse. At 468,000 sq ft it is still enormous, but approximately half the size of the one Tesco had wanted, and will apparently employ a similar number of staff. However, since gaining planning permission for the changes this required back in January, all has fallen remarkably quiet. From the trade press we gather that Goodman have already sold the as yet unstarted shed to Legal & General Property for £47m.

Report by the Chairman of Monxton Parish Council Continued.....

We are hoping to use some of the S106 money from the Airfield development to replace the bus shelters on the village green and at Sunnybank, which are both in quite poor shape. We are now getting the area around the Sunnybank shelter regularly maintained, and arranged the siting of a new, larger bin which we have been promised will be emptied regularly!

The battle to improve the state of Broad Road continues, with the severe weather over the winter having made matters even worse. I know of two incidents in the last few weeks where cars have suffered punctures and damage to their wheels when required to pull off the carriageway to pass other vehicles. Even the very generous offer made to Hampshire Highways by residents to provide the machinery and man power necessary to repair the worst of the potholes has fallen on deaf ears. In the mean time the state of the roads in the rest of Monxton is worsening, and it would appear we are a long way down the priority list.

Some road works which are on the books are at Red Post Bridge, where Network Rail will be carrying out strengthening works in the not too distant future. As this will involve the bridge parapets being made higher, there by making sight lines even worse, it is being proposed that some change be made to the road layout – possibly traffic lights or a change of priorities. It will mean closure of the road for a while, with the necessary diversions, but we do not have details yet of exactly what or when.

And now for thanks and farewells.

Firstly many thanks to Mike Cleugh, who has given up much of his time to keeping us all informed via Monxton Matters and the web site. Sadly, due to rising printing costs, we've had to call an end to the paper copy of Monxton Matters, but Mike's hard work continues producing an online version for us on the Web site.

Many thanks also to Graeme Lesley, for heading up the Village Hall Committee and organising some huge improvements to the hall over the past few years. Sadly, ill health has meant that Graeme has had to pass this role on, and we are delighted that Robin Aisher has stepped into the breach and is continuing where Graeme left off.

Thanks also to Liz Allen for her sterling work as Footpaths Representative, and to Robert for his invaluable work as NHW co-ordinator and greeter of new residents. Sadly we are to say goodbye to Jock, who is leaving the Parish Council prior to his anticipated house move. Many thanks for all your help over the past three years and best of luck with the move.

And another goodbye to Jules, who's sadly stepping down as clerk. I was somewhat panicked when Jules told me, as she's the one who really does all the work, and I was worried for a moment that I'd have to do some. However, efficient as ever, Jules has already organised a worthy successor, and I am delighted to welcome Karen Simon on board as our new clerk. Many thanks Jules for all your hard work, you will be missed. Also my sincere thanks to John for sticking with us despite all the grief he endured during the Sunnybank building, and to our excellent treasurer, David, for keeping us well and truly in the black despite the economic gloom." Mrs Saville then thanked Cllr Pat West for her invaluable support and advice over the last year.